

ABSTRACT

A technique for the construction, management, and execution of workflow-based applications consists of at least a development environment for process-based applications (DEPBA), a Workflow Management System (WFMS) and a Database Management System (DBMS). The WFMS provides for the definition and execution of process models underlying the workflow-based applications. The DBMS provides support for definition and execution of components, in particular stored procedures, that implement activities within the process model. The DEPBA provides for the definition of workflow-based applications and the export/import of the appropriate definitions to/from the WFMS and the DBMS. The technique shows how (1) the information required by the WFMS to run a component managed by the DBMS can be obtained by extracting the appropriate metadata for the component from the DBMS and (2) the information about a process step in a process model managed by the WFMS intended to be implemented as a component can be transformed into metadata associated with that component and transferred to the DBMS.